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In Reply Refer To:
FWS/CDFG-SDG-13B0066-13TA0091

DEC 17 2012

Ms. Maggie Loy
County of San Diego
Planning and Development Services
5510 Overland Ave, 3rd Floor, Ste. 310
San Diego, California 92123

Subject: Boundary Line Adjustment to the County of San Diego's Multiple Species
Conservation Program (MSCP) Subarea Plan for the Rancho Cielo Madura Project,
San Diego County, California (TM 3100 5456; Ref: 3100 4909 TM)

Dear Ms. Loy:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and the California Department of Fish and Game (Department), hereafter referred to as the Wildlife Agencies, have reviewed your request dated November 5, 2012, for our concurrence with an adjustment to the boundary of the County's Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) Subarea Plan Preserve (Preserve) for the subject project pursuant to Section 10.11 of the County's MSCP Implementing Agreement and Section 5.4.2 of the MSCP Subregional Plan (August 1998).

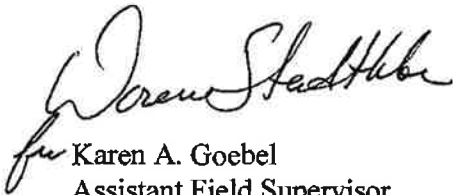
The project site is located 3.6 miles west of Interstate 15 within the San Dieguito Planning Area, an unincorporated area of San Diego County. In relation to the County's MSCP Subarea Plan, the proposed project is located in the central portion of the Lake Hodges Segment within the Rancho Cielo Specific Plan Area (SPA). As part of the Rancho Cielo SPA, the project was given hardline designations within the County's MSCP Subarea Plan in part as the Madura Subdivision and in part as a portion of the Rancho Cielo SPA. The two types of designations on the project site are "Take Authorized" and "Preserved Lands." The County proposes to adjust the boundaries of these designations pursuant to the "like or equivalent exchange" guidelines for Preserve Boundary Adjustments within the County's MSCP Subarea Plan. The proposed adjustment is the result of a re-design of this subdivision to comply with the updated fire prevention requirements of maintaining a 200-foot wide Fuel Management Zone (FMZ), rather than a 100-foot FMZ as originally required. In addition, there is a change to the secondary access for the project. As a result of the redesign, the overall project footprint will be reduced resulting in a net gain of approximately 0.3 acre of habitat within the Preserve, edge effects within the Preserve will be reduced, and wildlife corridors through the project site will be wider. In addition, a Resource Management Plan will be developed and implemented at the onsite Preserve Lands.

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Based on the information provided in your minor amendment request, the MSCP Findings of Conformance dated October 25, 2012, and the Biological Resource Letter Report (prepared by BLUE Consulting Group) dated October 2, 2012, that includes the County's responses to our comments on the biology report, the Wildlife Agencies concur with the proposed adjustment to the boundary of the County's MSCP Subarea Plan Preserve for the Rancho Cielo Madura Subdivision. If you have any questions or comments pertaining to this letter, please contact Michelle Moreno (Service) at 760-431-9440, extension 356, or Randy F. Rodriguez (Department) at 858-637-7100.

Sincerely,



for Karen A. Goebel
Assistant Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



Stephen M. Juarez
Environmental Program Manager
California Department of Fish and Game